

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this to support HB5326. When I was a young woman my father was dying of pancreatic cancer. Then as now there was no cure. When the disease had progressed to the point where he was in great pain and had no quality of life remaining my parents took their lives together.

My mother was healthy, only 59 years old with two children and five grandchildren who were then denied her presence in their lives.

It is my firm belief if there had been a way for my father to end his life with medical assistance, rather than my mother's, she would not have felt obliged to take her life as well.

The states of Oregon and Washington have had legal assisted suicide for several years now and I certainly have not heard of abuses of their laws. It is possible to provide safeguards so that only those who wish to will take advantage of this option. For many, just knowing that they have the option can provide comfort, whether they choose to use it or not.

I hope that you vote for this bill affirmatively.

Sincerely,

Judith Wick